

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 244

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Colonel Philip Lovell Hooper of Dickson.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Colonel Philip Lovell Hooper; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Philip Hooper was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hooper served with acumen and alacrity for 32 years in the United States Army and for 17 years with L&N Railroad (now called CSX Railroad), earning the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in Denison, Texas, to Harry H. Hooper and Anna Smith Hooper, the young Colonel Hooper lived in Colver, Pennsylvania, before enrolling in the Staunton Military Academy in Virginia at age 13; he then majored in mechanical engineering at Lehigh University; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Colonel Philip Hooper was commissioned into the United States Army Reserves, and by age 21, he was the professor of military science and tactics at

Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas, where he served as Commandant for 870 cadets from 1936 to 1940; and

WHEREAS, having joined the Texas National Guard in 1937, Colonel Hooper served with his National Guard unit in the Pacific for 42 months, ending with the occupation of mainland Japan; rapidly promoted from Second Lieutenant to Colonel, he was involved in freeing U.S. prisoners of war from internment camps; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Colonel Philip Hooper served on General Dwight Eisenhower's staff in Washington, D.C., and in 1952, he attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, initiating his extensive involvement with the development of atomic weapons, Colonel Hooper was assigned to serve in Los Alamos, New Mexico, and from 1954 to 1958, he served in Paris, France, at the NATO Defense College and Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers of Europe; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States, Colonel Philip Hooper served the Assistant Secretary of Defense for atomic energy at the Pentagon and as the Commander of Christmas Island during atomic testing in the spring of 1962, observing 67 atomic tests; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hooper then served as Chief of Staff of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, helping to prepare the division for deployment to Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, ending his illustrious and extensive military career with a two-year temporary duty in Washington, D.C., for which he made eight trips to Vietnam, testing and developing seismic sensors, starlight scopes and other equipment, Colonel Philip Hooper retired from the Army in 1968 and began working for L&N Railroad; and

WHEREAS, settling in Dickson with his wife, Jane, Colonel Hooper served as Resident Vice President for the railroad, and by his retirement from L&N Railroad in 1984, he had been promoted to Senior Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Philip Hooper was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church in Dickson, which he served faithfully for many years as a trustee and

elder; he also worked assiduously to garner valuable support for the church's scholarship program; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hooper particularly loved spending time with the church's children, encouraging them to set high goals and to work hard in order to reach them; and

WHEREAS, always committed to public service, Colonel Philip Hooper served for a remarkable twelve years on the 911 Committee; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hooper was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Philip Hooper enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of 65 years, Jane Wilson Hooper, and was the proud parent of Colonel Ruth Lynn Hooper, Philip L. Hooper, Jr. and his wife, Elizabeth; he was also blessed with four grandchildren, Scott N. Mead, Jennifer H. Arnosky, Joanna J. Hooper and Paul L. Hooper; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Philip Hooper leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Colonel Philip Lovell Hooper, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Colonel Hooper.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.